

Robert Greene Sterne Edward J. Kessler Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Cornwell Robert W. Esmond Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee Steven R. Ludwig John M. Covert Linda E. Alcorn Robert C. Millonig Donald J. Featherstone Lawrence B. Bugaisky Michael V. Messinger Judith U. Kim Timothy J. Shea, Jr. Patrick E. Garrett Jeffrey T. Helvey Heidi L. Kraus Albert L. Ferro \* Donald R. Banowit Peter A. Jackman Teresa U. Medler Jeffrey S. Weaver Kendrick P. Patterson Vincent L. Capuano Eldora Ellison Floyd Thomas C. Fiala Brian J. Del Buono Virgil Lee Beaston Theodore A. Wood Elizabeth J. Haanes Joseph S. Ostroff Frank R. Cottingham

Christine M. Lhulier Rae Lynn P. Guest George S. Bardmesser Daniel A. Klein\* Jason D. Eisenberg Michael D. Specht Andrea J. Kamage Tracy L. Muller\* Jon E. Wright LuAnne M. DeSantis Ann E. Summerfield Aric W. Ledford\* Helene C. Carlson Cynthia M. Bouchez Timothy A. Doyle\* Gaby L. Longsworth Lori A. Gordon\* Nicole D. Dretar Ted J. Ebersole

Jyoti C. tyer\* Laura A. Vogel Michael J. Mancuso Bryan S. Wade Aaron L. Schwartz Matthew E. Kelley\* Nicole R. Kramer\*

Registered Patent Agents\* Karen R. Markowicz Nancy J. Leith Matthew J. Dowd Aaron L. Schwartz Katrina Yujian Pei Quach Bryan L. Skelton Robert A. Schwartzman Teresa A. Colella Jeffrey S. Lundgren Victoria S. Rutherford Michelle K. Holoubek Simon J. Elliott Julie A. Heider Mita Mukherjee Scott M. Woodhouse Michael G. Penn Christopher J. Walsh Peter A. Socarras

Of Counsel Kenneth C. Bass III Evan R. Smith Marvin C. Guthrie

\*Admitted only in Maryland \*Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

February 9, 2005

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8625
INTERNET ADDRESS: ESTEFFE@SKGF.COM

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 09/894,018; Filed: June 27, 2001 For: Method and System for Optimizing

Minigenes and Peptides Encoded Thereby

Inventors:

Sette et al.

Our Ref:

2060.0320003/EKS/PAC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a);
- 2. Notice of Appeal From the Examiner to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences- Small Entity;
- 3. United States Patent and Trademark Office Credit Card Payment Form for \$760.00 including \$250.00 Notice of Appeal fee and \$510.00 three (3) month extension of time fee for a small entity; and
- 4. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC.: 1100 New York Avenue, NW: Washington, DC 20005: 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540: www.skgf.com

Commissioner for Patents February 9, 2005 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Eric K. Steffe Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 36,688

EKS/PAC:dbj Enclosures

362371\_1.DOC